

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Northern District of Illinois Western Division

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June 11, 2004

SYCAMORE MAN SENTENCED TO 92 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON ON FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; and THOMAS J. KNEIR, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today made the following announcement:

United States District Judge Philip G. Reinhard today sentenced **DENNIS C. EICHELBERGER**, 55 (DOB: 06/03/49), 456 S. California, Apt. A., Sycamore, to 92 months in federal prison without parole for transporting and shipping child pornography across state lines via computer. In addition, Eichelberger has been sentenced to 3 years of supervised release following his release from prison, and ordered to pay a fine of \$300.

Eichelberger pled guilty to the charges on April 9, 2004. In pleading guilty, Eichelberger admitted that between August 21, 2001 and September 22, 2001, he knowingly transported child pornography in interstate commerce, including 60 computer files of images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Eichelberger admitted that beginning in 2001, he used a variety of screen names on his internet service to view, send, and receive child pornography. Further, Eichelberger admitted he was a member of several groups of internet users who established email groups for the purpose of trading child pornography by sending child pornography over the internet to other persons with the expectation of receiving child pornography from those persons in return. Eichelberger also admitted that beginning in 2001, and continuing until June 2003, he videotaped images of child pornography from his WebTV internet system so that he could send the images via the internet. Eichelberger further admitted he obtained a printer in August 2002, and began printing images of child pornography off of the internet.

Eichelberger was arrested on September 4, 2003, by Special Agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and has since been held in federal custody without bond.

The case was investigated by the Rockford office of the FBI. The case was being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney MONICA V. MALLORY.